TIMBER TALK

PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODEN MONEY COLLECTORS

Volume 47, Issue #5

May 2021

Table of contents

Featured Wood of the Month	2
Norm is downsizing!	2
Chips from the Woodpile	3
S.N. Q's 66th Ann. Woods	5
Woods of the World	7
Nomination Form	8

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Al Munro (chairman)

Norm Belsten

Dave Gillespie (On)

Michael Turrini

Kevin Day-Thorburn

Robert (Bob) Fritsch

Hello!

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of CAWMC, I would like to welcome Yvon Marquis, from Quebec, to our Association. Yvon is already involved in our world, having spearheaded the S.N.Q. Anniversary wood program (page 5 and 6 of present issue), and the 9 Denier Wood Project, discussed in the April issue of TT.

I am also so proud of how our Zoom meeting, held on April 10, went. We had the largest attendance of all the meetings scheduled through the ONA convention, thanks to members and guests attending from British Columbia, Eastern Canada, New Hampshire, and Ireland (and everywhere in between)! Thank you to Vic Agha and Norm Belsten for their virtual presentation to our group. And I apologise if I sounded annoying by repeating: "I'm so nervous". Apparently, I said it five times! I promise I will do better at our virtual Annual General Meeting, scheduled for July 22, 2021, at 6:30 PM EDT. The reports to be voted on and the details of the connection to the meeting will be sent ahead of time.

You will also find a form for nominations of officers to lead your Association in 2021-2023. If you have time, ideas, or simply want to lend a hand, please consider joining the Board of Directors. The nomination form is on page 8 in this issue.

A huge thank you to Jim Smith, from Likely BC, for his generous donation of many of his interesting woods.

Please consider contributing an article of your own for this publication. It will be appreciated and will earn you a thank you wood as well.

Stay Safe!

France

Featured Wood of the Month

The Darren Lorway Wood

The featured wood was issued in 2007 but was not known by collectors until 2020. In August 2020 I was going through some tokens I had and found one issued by Darren Lorway. Although a phone number was shown the issuers address was not shown. I went to the token catalogue website http://tokencatalog.com and searched for Daren Lorway. I did not find my medal token but instead I found a wooden token entered by one of our newer American members Vic Agha. I contacted Vic and asked what he knew about the wood and he advised he had acquired a pound of wooden tokens from the wooden token museum of America and this token was included. He advised he was no longer interested in the wood and he offered it to me, and I accepted.

I then sent an email to the address on the token and found that Darren is now living in New Westminster BC and he had left the remaining tokens in Sidney, Nova Scotia when he moved. He said he was going home in the fall and would search for the tokens. He contacted me in early October and advised he had located the tokens and brought them with him to New Westminster. He offered to sell 100 tokens to CAWMC and I accepted the offer. I acquired 100 of the tokens for free distribution. 250 of the woods were made in 2007. The e-mail address shown on the woods is still valid, but Darren is not at the phone number shown, nor is actively operating as a coin dealer.

Al Munro

Norm, our cataloger, is downsizing!

Norm has a collection of more than 8,000 woods (or about 37 binders). This collection is offered for sale.

Norm has also, with help of dedicated wood collectors and friends, organized his duplicates in **bags of 100 woods**, **by province**, and offers them to collectors **for $12 per bags, plus postage**.

This is a great opportunity to add to or complete your own collection!

Please contact Norm at: **nbelsten@sympatico.ca**

Chips from the Woodpile …. By Dave Gillespie

Fortunately, I have had the opportunity of looking back to review and report to you on the first twenty years of C.A.W.M.C.'s history and through Timber Talk (now twenty years old) brought forward some interesting facts, events and remarkable stories! Continuing from there, the Saskatoon Coin Club celebrated the 35th Anniversary of it's Coin and Stamp show and to mark the occasion issued a wood on October 26th, 1996.

If you are travelling to the East Coast and passing through Fredericton, N.B. try not to miss the World's Largest Wooden Nickel commissioned by Darren Johnston. Ron Sajack, a Fredericton artist designed both sides, which is twelve feet in diameter, one and one quarter foot thick and printed in bronze on both sides. The wood was on display at the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre until November 15th, 1995 but a wood that size must still be on display somewhere?

The Southern Ontario Chapter of C.A.W.M.C. agreed to host the 1996 O.N.A. The show was held in North York and lots of new woods were collected along with a highly successful and profitable auction at the wooden money meeting.

The Canadian Mint introduced into circulation the $2.00 coin or "Toonie" as it is known in February of 1996. Shortly thereafter, the "One Loony Twoonie" came out of the lathe and off the hot stamping press in West Guilford. The outer ring was made from maple with a black walnut centre, and it was certified to be 99.9% pure wood.

Later that same year the Halifax Coin Club commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the launching of Canada's "Bluenose Sailing Ship" with the issue of a wooden token. The Bluenose launched from the harbour in Lunenburg on March 26th, 1921 and was featured on the reverse side of the Canadian dime, starting in 1937. Sadly, it hit a reef and sank off the coast of Haiti on January 29th, 1946. The Bluenose II is open to the public and can be visited in Lunenburg harbor to this day.

A press release hit the newsletter from New Brunswick to say that the Moncton Coin Club would be hosting the 1997 C.N.A. in July. The convention logo "Catch the Big One" had a double meaning referring to the big lobster or the big coin show. The release also mentioned that lobster traps are usually in the form of a half cylinder 2.5 feet to 4 feet long with wood frames covered with lathe and netting. The report also acclaimed that Canadian fishermen set over three million traps each year. That was then, now it is being reported that Canadian fishermen bring in around $ 750 million dollars worth of lobster annually and the largest lobster caught off the coast of Nova Scotia was in 1977 and by the Guinness Book of World records weighed 44 pounds 6 ounces.

The Waterloo Coin Society's annual banquet was advertised for May 21st, 1997 and it included an "all you can eat" buffet dinner and hosted a Toronto Star columnist as the evening's speaker. Robert Aaron gave a talk about "Sunken Treasures" in the Caribbean and his experience in purchasing shares in a company established in the Florida Keys as treasurer hunters. The company researched history books on sunken ships and combed the waters between Florida and Cuba looking for lost treasure. As it happened these explorers did find a sunken ship with thousands of pounds of silver bars along with gold, gold coins and a variety of jewels and precious stones that were recovered. Bob received several pieces of Spanish silver for his investment. He said that it was not a great return on his investment, but he does have a story to tell and some ancient pieces of silver in his collection.

AND now for another quiz question:

1. *Which member has held the appointed position of Bulletin Editor for the longest period of time?*

'Til next time …… Let the Chips lie where they fall. Dave Gillespie

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Answer to the Chips Question from April 2021

Q Which member has held the office of C.A.W.M.C. President for the longest period of time?

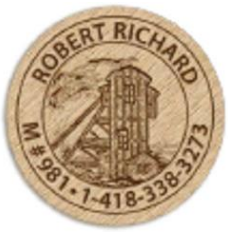
A: Norm Belsten – 1985 to 1991 and 2003 to 2005 (8 years)

The Societe Numismatique de Quebec 60 th Anniversary woods program

The Societe Numismatique de Quebec celebrated it's 60 th Anniversary in 2020. Although the physical celebrations were postponed, due to Covid-19 and the resulting health restrictions, the woods program went ahead. The Societe issued a 60 th anniversary wood, using the logo of the SNQ , modified to include the year 1960 and 2020 on the obverse and a special anniversary logo on the reverse.

Then all members were invited to issue their own personalized wood, using a common SNQ logo for the other side. 26 members have taken advantage of this offer. Each issuer, through exchange of woods coordinated by the 60th ann. committee, ended up with two complete sets of all woods issued, one of piéforts and one regular thickness woods.

Each issuing member was asked to describe their own wood. Some of the woods created, and all thoughts behind them, were presented in the April 2021 issue of Timber Talk. Here are more woods and descriptions.



REVERSE # 0981 (ROBERT RICHARD)

The design of my token represents a mining shaft elevator. I live in Thetford where, in the years 1958 to 1980, there was a coin club, of which I was a member. On April 30, 1967, the club made a first exhibition and had an exceptionally beautiful souvenir coin minted. This is a reproduction of this piece. This wood represents me very well because I have been collecting since 1967 and have worked in the asbestos mines. Robert issued 60 tokens, including 26 piéforts and 34 regulars.

REVERSE # 0983 (JEAN- LOUIS SIMARD)

My choice of motif for the wood token was motivated by my interest in coins that circulated during the time of the French regime. I was inspired by the double tournois, a coin minted from 1589 to 1647 which circulated in New France and bearing the fleur-de-lys. I simply replaced the legend with my name and the numismatist mention. I am very happy to have participated in this project and to have issued a first numismatic item in my name. Jean-Louis had a total of 125 tokens cut including 26 piéforts and 99 regulars.

REVERSE # 0994 (FRANÇOIS RUFIANGE)

The 1943 5-cent coin represents my early days as a numismatist. The pattern on the wood is an excerpt from the pattern on the original piece. I have kept the "V" which represents the denomination and Victory, made so popular by Winston Churchill, the torch, symbol of sacrifice and finally the two maple leaves, symbol of Canada. In legend: FRANÇOIS RUFIANGE. François had a total of 60 tokens cut, including 26 piéforts and 34 regular ones.

REVERSE # 1036 (DANIEL HAMEL).

For my wooden tokens, I used the Coat of Arms of the Hamel family, which has been modified for the 60th Anniversary of the S. N.Q. Around the Coat of Arms the letters S.N.Q. are framed on each side by four poppies and at the bottom is my email address. In the center, in the top ribbon, the name HAMEL and below, my member number. In the stripe of the shield, I wrote the dates 1960-2020, and in the center 60. In the ribbon under the shield is written our motto QUI SY FROTTE SY PIQUE (tr: If you look for trouble, you'll find it). Daniel had a total of 77 woods cut including 26 piéforts and 44 regulars.

REVERSE # 1040 (RÉGENT ST-HILAIRE)

First, I always liked the image of the beaver, whether it was on the Canadian 5 cents, on certain medals, stamps, etc. The beaver in Canada and Quebec is a bearer of history. In fact, for the 50th anniversary of the SNQ, I had personalized medals made in silver, gold and bronze finishes. Under the beaver, I wrote **Pour la mémoire de l'histoire** (For the memory of history), and at the bottom of the token **Numismate depuis 1969** (Numismatist since 1969), it expresses the passion that has lived within me for more than 50 years. What matters to me is the research and dissemination of information, of history, that is what fascinates me. On each side of the beaver, **the fleur-de-lys and the maple leaf** represent Quebec and Canada and the history that connects them. Regent cut a total of 75 tokens including 26 piéforts and 49 regulars.

REVERSE # 1061 (JEAN-FRANCOIS DESROSIERS)

The Porte St-Louis and the addition of the letters d B means my hometown of St-Louis de Blandford, and also that my collection is made up of several interests, the first of which is an interest in protecting the heritage of the old town of Quebec. The compass signifies my profession as a developer / designer of CNC and conventional machines. The GD in the center refers to the last name of my spouse and mine (Gaudreault-Desrosiers) and therefore the last name of my two daughters. The beaver characterizes me, signifying my need to build, to stand out in my business and on a personal level and my involvement on a social level. 1975 is when my interest in numismatics started. Jean-François cut a total of 75 tokens including 26 piéforts and 49 regulars.

REVERSE # 1070 (CHARLES BOIVIN)

I chose Georges VI because since my childhood I have developed a great deal of affection for him, and his story has always fascinated me. At the top, I wrote my name, in the middle my membership number and at the bottom my personal cell number. Charles had a total of 150 tokens cut, including 26 piéforts and 124 regulars.

REVERSE # 1075 (GILLES LAVOIE)

In the center of the token, I have placed a wolf that howls at the moon because I am obsessed with this animal. He is the master of the pack. For me, the wolf represents strength, vigilance, the ability to feed and protect his pack. There is also my membership number on the Wolf Rock. Around the outline, I have written my name at the top and my email address at the bottom for anyone interested in joining me. Gilles cut a total of 60 chips including 26 piéforts and 34 regulars.

REVERSE # 1076 (CHANTAL COUTURE)

The colibri (hummingbird) means a lot to me because when I was dating Gilles Lavoie\ (my husband) he collected Colibri lighters. One day he told me:" hello my little colibri", and I answered: "I'm not a lighter"; he then explained to me that there was a little bird by that name. Then I saw this hummingbird so fragile yet so strong and its wings always flapping. I never saw it at rest. I still love this little bird that fascinates me to this day. There is also my name, email address and membership number. Chantal cut a total of 60 tokens including 26 piéforts and 34 regulars.

The description of the nine remaining woods in this series will appear in the June Issue of Timber Talk

The Foreign Corner…….Woods of the World by Vic Agha

Mora. To my great surprise, the 1910 Argentina medal made of curupay wood has at least one relative. That would explain why the type of wood is listed on the reverse of the medal, but also makes me wonder how many different woods these were made of!

Pear. In 2015, the Hungarian Mint came up with a medal that was meant to mimic a coin. The "denomination" of 1 fabatka is a reference to a type of denomination used about 500 years ago. These are struck on wild pear wood and available from the mint in medal and keychain form.

Lodgepole Pine. Look long enough and you'll start seeing woods out there that claim to be "inflation proof rounds" made of 999 fine pine. They're printed on standard maple wood planchets.

Jim Smith makes wooden coins out of pine wood. He makes rounds out of beetle kill pine: pine trees left dead but standing by the pine beetle (and a possible fire hazard if left standing). There seems to be some variability in the wooden planchets. Some have a "rice cake" feel to them as they are quite pale and weight only 3 g, while others (of the same size) weigh in at 4 g and are noticeably darker. These are doubtlessly cut from different parts of the tree.

Nomination Form for July 2021 to July / August 2023

Officers and Directors

Please ensure that if you are nominating somebody, that you have confirmed his / her willingness to stand BEFORE submitting your nomination form. Nomination forms should be sent to Dave Gillespie at dacar57@hotmail.com so as to reach him BEFORE May 12th, 2021. If more than one person nominated for a position, we will then send out Election Ballot Forms in our June 2021 Timber Talk (or by separate e-mail). At our Virtual Annual Meeting during the virtual RCNA Convention (July 22, 2021, 18:30 EDT) we will call for a motion to confirm the Officers and Directors (it is not mandatory for nominated parties to be in attendance). All executive positions are up for re-election as indicated below:

I would like to nominate the following CAWMC current members as indicated beside the position below [PLEASE PRINT THE PERSON(s) FULL NAMES]:

For President: _____

For Vice-President: _____

For Secretary-Treasurer / Membership Chairperson: _____

For Directors:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____

The above person(s) are nominated by: (print YOUR name) _____

Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) _____ SIGN YOUR NAME HERE:

_____

Scan and e-mail to **dacar57@hotmail.com** or send by Canada Post mail service to Mr. Dave Gillespie, 3 Old Oak Lane, Mono ON L9W 4B1. MUST reach Dave by May 12th, 2021. ONLY those nomination forms SIGNED by the nominator, will be accepted.